## Approved For Release 2006/10/17\*: CtA-RDR58-0043 \$R000200300035.2

8 January 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

SUBJECT: Secrecy of Patent Application

- 1. Details of an invention under Patent Application Serial Number

  were recently forwarded
  to this office by the Chief, Patents Division, JAG, Army, for comment regarding any interest this agency may have in preserving the secrecy of the invention. The file was forwarded to Colonel Drum, and, on his request I advised Lieutenant Colonel Hodges by telephone that we did wish to preserve its security.
- 2. Colonel Hodges explained that, while the invention was not presently under secrecy order, they had been employing a method of delayed processing which, of course, has the effect of delaying issuance of the patent. I suggested that perhaps this did not restrict the information sufficiently within the Patent Office and that a secrecy order might be advisable. He concurred and stated that they would take the necessary steps to protect our interest.
- 3. The deadline of 9 January suggested in Hodges' forwarding memo is not related to the issuance of patent by the Patent Office, but is simply for process within his own office. My call met the need for immediate action, but a written reply will be provided when the file is received from Drum for return to Hodges.

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Office of the General Counsel

OGC/CWP/evs